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City and County Borough of Lincoln



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1939

LINCOLN :
"CHRONICLE AND LEADER" PRINTING WORKS

City and County Borough of Lincoln.

The Mayor :

COUNCILLOR A. L. BOWER.

Health and Hospitals Committee :

Chairman : COUNCILLOR L. J. MILLS.

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR A. L. BOWER).

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|------------------|
| ALDERMAN | P. MILNER | COUNCILLOR | A. E. BRUNNING |
| „ | C. E. SNOOK | „ | H. W. MARTIN |
| „ | W. SINDELL | „ | J. W. LAWSON |
| COUNCILLOR | J. J. LEAMY | „ | J. CURLEY |
| „ | L. J. MILLS | „ | J. F. LITTLEOVER |

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee :

Chairman : COUNCILLOR A. E. BRUNNING.

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR A. L. BOWER).

| | | | |
|------------|----------------|------------|------------------|
| ALDERMAN | P. MILNER | COUNCILLOR | J. W. LAWSON |
| „ | C. E. SNOOK | „ | J. CURLEY |
| „ | W. SINDELL | „ | J. F. LITTLEOVER |
| COUNCILLOR | J. J. LEAMY | Mrs. | O. DEER |
| „ | L. J. MILLS | „ | E. LEGGATE |
| „ | A. E. BRUNNING | „ | E. E. CHESTER |
| „ | H. W. MARTIN | „ | R. M. WATERLOW |

Public Assistance Committee :

Chairman : ALDERMAN W. SINDELL.

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR A. L. BOWER).

| | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| ALDERMAN | P. MILNER. | COUNCILLOR | L. J. MILLS |
| „ | W. SINDELL | „ | H. W. MARTIN |
| „ | J. W. PRESTON | „ | J. W. LAWSON |
| COUNCILLOR | J. E. FORDHAM | „ | G. GILBERT |
| „ | J. K. FOX | „ | J. CURLEY |
| „ | J. J. LEAMY | „ | D. F. SCOTT |
| „ | H. WILLCOCK | | |

House Sub-Committee :

Chairman : COUNCILLOR J. J. LEAMY.

Members of Public Assistance Committee

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF as at 31st DECEMBER, 1939.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Medical Officer of Health | M. L. BERY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Deputy Medical Officer of Health | G. GEMMILL, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Public Vaccinator | †W. SHARRARD, M.B., CH.B. |
| Public Analyst | †JOHN EVANS, F.I.C. (Sheffield). |
| Chief Sanitary Inspector | *DUNCAN G. MCGILL, Cert. R.S.I. |
| Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector | *HAROLD SHIMELD, Cert. R.S.I. |
| Sanitary Inspectors | *F. L. G. CHAPMAN, Cert. R.S.I. §*†E. AVISON, Cert. S.I.E.J.B. *L. DAVEY, Cert. S.I.E.J.B. (Medical Section A.R.P. Duties) |
| Assistant Sanitary Inspector | J. W. HOE, Cert. R.S.I. |
| Chief Clerk | C. E. ELMER. |
| General Clerk and | |
| Vaccination Officer | A. G. HARMSTON. |
| Assistant Clerks, etc. | A. SMITH. A. C. TAYLOR, M. M. HERRING. M. M. HOPPINS. H. WAITE, E. W. MURDOCK (Temp.) B. MARRIOTT (Temp. A.R.P.) K. J. WABY (Temp. A.R.P.) |

Tuberculosis.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Tuberculosis Officer | †M. L. BERY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Assistant Tuberculosis Officer | †G. GEMMILL, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Tuberculosis Nurses | ¶ E. COOK, S.R.N. G. COOPER, S.R.N. |

STAFF—*continued***Venereal Diseases.**

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Consultant Medical Officer | †DOUGLAS J. CAMPBELL, F.R.C.P. (Ed.), D.P.H. |
| Medical Officer (Male Clinics) | †R. CAMERON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Medical Officer (Female Clinics) | †BRIDGET MAUDE FOLEY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Nurse | †¶M. V. ARMSTRONG. |
| Orderly | †J. H. SIMS. |

City Hospital and Sanatorium.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Medical Superintendent | †M. L. BERY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Resident Medical Officer | C. M. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.CH., L.M., D.P.H. |
| Matron | E. O'KANE, S.R.N. |
| Clerk | B. G. STREET. |

Nursing, Male, Out-Door, and Domestic Staff at City Hospital
and Sanatorium.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Medical Superintendent | †M. L. BERY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Assistant Medical Officer | BRIDGET MAUDE FOLEY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| General Superintendent | ¶ E. M. DAVIES, S.R.N., Cert. R.S.I., Certificate of Hygiene R.S.I. |
| Health Visitors | ¶A. M. EMPRINGHAM, S.R.N., Infant Welfare. ¶M. REYNOLDS, S.R.N., H.V., Cert. Infant Welfare. ¶H. T. EKENDAHL, S.R.N., R.S.C.N., H.V. Cert. Infant Welfare. |
| Sister in Charge of Maternity Home | ¶ E. TWISS, S.R.N. Midwife Teachers' Certificate. |
| Ante Natal and V.D. Nurse | ¶M. V. ARMSTRONG. |
| "Light" Nurse | ¶M. L. CREDLAND, Cert. Actinotherapy. |
| Dental Assistant | M. LADLOW |

STAFF—*continued*Maternity and Child Welfare—*cont.*

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| District Midwives | ¶M. A. RICHARDSON. ¶A. M. CLAYTON. ¶D. E. BARKER. ¶S. G. TROW. ¶G. E. EMERSON. ¶J. WEATHERILL. ¶V. LANCASTER (Temp). |
| Clerks | E. KETTLEBORO. S. FOULSTON. K. THOMPSON. E. DEXTER D. STEVENSON |

Nursing and Domestic Staff at Maternity Home.

Public Assistance Committee.

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Chief Administrative Medical Officer | M. L. BERY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Consulting Surgeon, Burton Road Institution | †J. LYONS, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H. |
| Medical Officer | R. CAMERON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. |
| Master | E. RAITHBY. |
| Matron | ¶L. A. DODDS (Mrs.) S.R.N. |
| Superintendent Nurse | ¶H. HENSHALL, S.R.N. |

Nursing, Clerical and Domestic Staff.

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| *Meat and Food certificate | ¶State Certified Midwife. |
| †Part-time. | ¶Fever trained. |
| § Smoke Inspector's Certificate R.S.I. | |
| ‡ Food Hygiene Cert. R.S.I. | |

City Health Department,
Beaumont Fee,
Lincoln,
November, 1940.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the City during 1939.

The report is in accordance with the Ministry of Health's Circular 2067, and on account of the need for strict economy in the use of paper and the increased work on the Department, the Report is in the nature of an interim report only.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES AND THE WAR.

During 1939 and specially from 3rd September when war commenced, a great deal of the time of your Medical Officer of Health and other Members of the Public Health Services was of necessity occupied with the medical side of Air Raid Precautions. The Chief sections to deal with the casualties which may have occurred were :—

1. First Aid Parties.
2. Ambulances.
3. First Aid Posts, Fixed and Mobile.
4. Hospitals.
5. Civil Nursing Reserve.
6. Blood Donors.

I am glad to report that in spite of the additional work thrown on the Department, it was found possible to continue all the Clinics and Treatment Centres established by the Council for the welfare of the citizens.

Lincoln was designated as a Receiving Centre by the Ministry of Health, and arrangements were made for the medical supervision and treatment of a large number of evacuees. The following is a brief summary of the number of evacuees received during 1939 and the number remaining at the end of the year :—

| | <i>Number received</i> | <i>Number remaining at end of year.</i> |
|--|----------------------------|---|
| Number of unaccompanied children (of school age) | 2043 | 556 |
| Accompanied children (below 5 years of age) .. | 295 | 12 |
| Teachers | 242 | 79 |
| Mothers | 165 | 7 |
| Expectant Mothers | 44 | — |
| Children born in Lincoln | 18 | — |
| Nurses | 6 | — |
| Helpers | 62 | 3 |
| Totals | <u>2875</u> | <u>657</u> |

The Medical, Nursing and other Staff were able to provide adequate supervision of the evacuees and all the Clinics of the Council were utilised for their welfare.

It is pleasing to report that the health of the evacuees showed improvement whilst they were in Lincoln in the majority of cases.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1) Laboratory Facilities.

The Laboratory at the Public Health Department was available during the year, and on the outbreak of the War, the Emergency Public Health Laboratory was established for the use of the City and the neighbouring areas, by the Ministry of Health.

(2) Ambulance Facilities.

Two motor ambulances at the City Hospital for infectious cases and two motor ambulances at the Police Station continued to be kept during 1939 as in the previous year.

(3) Nursing in the Home.

The arrangements with the Lincoln District Nursing Association for the nursing of the patients in their homes were on similar lines as in the previous year.

No special nurses were employed for the nursing of infectious cases in the home.

(4) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

It was found possible to conduct all the Clinics and Treatment Centres established under the City Council. Full details were given in my report for the previous year.

(5) Hospitals.

I. Provided by the Local Authority.

The various Committees of the Council concerned with Hospitals gave consideration to the provision of new hospital accommodation which was considered necessary but it was not found possible to make new provision during the year.

The arrangements for dealing with Service cases and Air Raid Casualties in Hospitals were under the direction of the Ministry of Health and the Council is generally aware of the various steps taken to increase the bed accommodation. This matter continues to receive the attention of the Ministry of Health.

All the Hospitals provided by the Council were available for the use of the patients during the year. These are :—

1. City Hospital and Sanatorium.
2. City Maternity Home.
3. Burton Road Institution.
4. Joint-Smallpox Hospital.

II. Hospitals not wholly subsidised by the Local Authority.

County Hospital.

This is a voluntary general Hospital which deals with patients from the City and the neighbouring County area. I am informed that it was not found possible to open the new 28 bed ward during the year, but plans for further extensions are being proceeded with.

(6) **Public Assistance Medical Out-door Relief.**

The scheme for the provision of domiciliary medical relief, under which the patient has free choice of doctor, was continued during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Marriages.

There were 789 marriages solemnised as compared with 643 in the previous year.

Births.

The net live births during the year were 849 and this gives a birth rate of 13.4. This is the same rate as in the previous year.

The net still-births were 26 as compared with 35 during 1938.

Deaths.

The net deaths for the City were 854 and this gives a death-rate of 13.4 as compared with 12.5 for 1938.

Infant Mortality.

The deaths of infants under one year of age were 41, and this gives an infant mortality rate of 48 as compared with 44 for 1938.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The methods of investigation of notifiable infectious diseases were on similar lines as in the previous year.

The total number of notifiable infectious diseases, excluding Chicken-pox, was 218, as compared with 302 in the previous year.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 151 | 92 | 59 | 80 | 61 |

There were no deaths from this cause.

Diphtheria.

The number of notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 32 | 60 | 49 | 41 | 34 |

There were no deaths during 1939 from this cause.

The Immunization Clinic which was established during 1935 was continued during 1939 for the use of parents who wished their children to be immunized, but the attendances were not large.

Erysipelas.

Five cases were notified as compared with 15 in 1938.

There were no deaths from this cause.

Enteric Fever.

The number of notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 |

There was no death from this cause.

Dysentery.

The number of notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2 | 8 | 1 | — | 4 |

There was no death from this cause.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

The number of notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2 | — | 1 | 1 | — |

There were, however, two deaths certified from this cause.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

The number of notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | — | 2 | 2 | 3 |

There was no death from this cause.

Malaria.

No case of Malaria was notified during 1939.

Acute Polio-Myelitis and Acute Polioencephalitis.

No cases were notified during 1939.

Pneumonia.

The number of notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 61 | 81 | 120 | 87 | 97 |

The deaths attributed to this cause numbered 32.

Smallpox.

No case of Smallpox was notified during 1939.

Chickenpox.

The number of notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 337 | 391 | 208 | 482 | 265 |

There was no death from this cause.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.**Measles.**

14 cases were brought to the notice of the Health Department as compared with 264 in 1938.

No deaths were certified as due to this cause.

German Measles.

One case was brought to the notice of the Health Department as against 11 in 1938.

Mumps.

16 cases were reported as against 26 during 1938.

Whooping Cough.

200 cases were reported as against 145 in 1938.

Two deaths were reported from this cause.

Influenza.

The deaths directly attributed to Influenza were 18 as compared with 11 in 1938.

CANCER.

There were 109 deaths from Cancer and this was the same number as in 1938.

A Joint Committee of the three County Councils and two County Boroughs of Lincolnshire continued to give consideration to the establishment of a Joint Scheme for Cancer, but it was not found possible to take any definite action during 1939.

Prevention of Blindness.

The arrangements for the prevention of blindness were on similar lines as described in my report for 1938.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Tuberculosis Scheme was conducted on the same lines as described in my report for 1938.

The number of primary notifications received during the last five years was as follows :—

| | | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|---------------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Pulmonary | | 60 | 60 | 47 | 51 | 41 |
| Non-Pulmonary | | 19 | 18 | 23 | 12 | 12 |
| Total | | 79 | 78 | 70 | 63 | 53 |

From the above figures it is pleasing to note that the total number of notifications of persons suffering from tuberculosis has shown a decline during the last five years.

The total number of deaths from tuberculosis during the last five years was as follows :—

| | | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|---------------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Pulmonary | | 31 | 47 | 30 | 27 | 28 |
| Non-Pulmonary | | 12 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 11 |
| Total | | 43 | 57 | 42 | 35 | 39 |

The importance of early diagnosis and treatment of tuberculous patients continued to be emphasised during the year.

The statistics in connection with tuberculosis for the year of 1939 were sent to the Ministry of Health in the beginning of 1940.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Venereal Diseases Scheme was on the same lines as described in my report for 1938. The statistics in connection with Venereal Diseases for the year 1939 were sent to the Ministry of Health during the beginning of the present year.

WATER.

The chlorination of the water supply was continued during the year and the results of bacteriological examination of samples of water were satisfactory.

The water supply remained satisfactory in quality and quantity.

SANITARY STAFF.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector reports that the activities of the Sanitary Staff were continued on similar lines as during 1938.

Two Sanitary Inspectors left the Department to take up similar posts elsewhere, but it was decided by the Council not to fill these vacancies.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

It was found possible to continue all measures for Maternity and Child Welfare as described in my report for 1938.

Maternal Mortality.

The number of deaths in the City which were considered maternal deaths was two. This gives a maternal mortality of 2.29 as compared with 3.40 for the previous year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Six cases were notified during the year as against 1 during 1938.

The vision was unimpaired in all cases.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

The number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the last five years was as follows :—

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
| 10 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 7 |

Municipal District Midwifery Service, and Ante-Natal Clinics.

These Services were continued on the same lines as described in my Report for 1938.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the good work accomplished by all the Members of the Staffs concerned with the Public Health Services.

Your obedient Servant,

M. L. BERY,

Medical Officer of Health.

